



Department of Energy

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Mr. Martin Hestmark  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII  
ATTN: Rocky Flats Project Manager, 8HWM-RI  
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Denver, Colorado 80202-2405

Mr. Joe Schieffelin, Unit Leader  
Hazardous Waste Facilities  
Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South  
Denver, Colorado 80222-1530

Gentlemen:

This letter conveys the Final Phase I RCRA Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation (RFI/RI) Report and the associated Rocky Flats Environmental Data System disk for Operable Unit (OU) No. 15. The submission of this report meets the Interagency Agreement Milestone schedule of January 4, 1995, for delivery. This letter is the Department of Energy Rocky Flats Operations Office's formal request for approval of the Final Phase I Report.

The comments provided by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) dated August 19, 1994, are addressed in the Response to Comments, which accompanies this Final Report. Also included is a Redline/Strikeout document which shows the changes in the Draft Report made in response to CDPHE comments, as well as changes made in internal review.

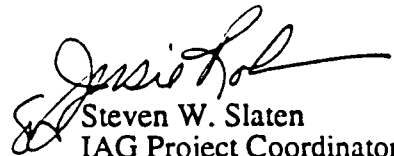
The comments of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which were conveyed to us by the CDPHE in their letter dated December 5, 1994, were not received in time to be considered in preparing the OU 15 Final Phase I RFI/RI Report. The Department of Energy's (DOE) letter of July 25, 1994, which conveyed the Draft Phase I RFI/RI Report, requested that comments be provided by September 8, 1994. The EPA was advised by letter, dated September 29, 1994, that DOE was proceeding to revise the Draft Report absent their comments. These revisions to the Draft Report were finalized on November 22, 1994, and reproduction of the Final Phase I RFI/RI Report was authorized.

We accept CDPHE's suggestion that the issues raised by the EPA's comments of December 5, 1994, be addressed in a written response separate from the OU 15 Final Phase I RFI/RI Report. We have done a preliminary review of the EPA's comments and do not believe that their resolution would require any substantial change to the Final Phase I RFI/RI report. Therefore, we do not see any value in accepting the 91 day schedule extension offered by the State and are forwarding our report three weeks ahead of the milestone. The written response to EPA comments will be provided by January 18, 1995.

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A Closure Strategy Paper has been prepared to serve as the basis for discussion of the remaining steps involved in achieving the closure of OU 15. We suggest a meeting between EPA, CDPHE and DOE be held during January, 1995, to discuss the separate written response to the EPA's comments and to consider the next steps in closure of OU 15.

Sincerely,

  
Steven W. Slaten  
IAG Project Coordinator  
Environmental Restoration

Enclosure

cc w/o Enclosure:  
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M. Silverman, OOM, RFFO  
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